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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re PATENT application of:

Nobuhiro JIWARI et al.

Application No.: 09/708,085

Filed: November 8, 2000

For: METHOD FOR FABRICATING SEMI-
CONDUCTOR DEVICE

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) Art Unit: 2813
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) Examiner: Thanh. T. NGUYEN
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on May 14, 2002.

Bonnie B. Smith

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

May 14, 2002

Dear Sir:

In response to the Examiner's Final Office Action mailed December 17, 2001, please consider the following amendments and remarks in connection with the above-identified application.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 4 and 8 without prejudice or disclaimer to the subject matter disclosed therein.

Please amend claims 1 and 6 to read as follows:

1. (Amended) A method for fabricating a semiconductor device, comprising the steps

of:

Sub B1